

## Premium Poetry.

We give below the poems for which we offered premiums for the best some weeks ago. All received were submitted to a committee of acknowledged ability, who considered the claims of each, and awarded the prizes accordingly. Our published proposals.—E. H. F. F. F.

### [1st PRIZE.] Song of the Retreating Pioneer.

BY HENRY F. YOUNG.

Am—Arag's Daughter.

Farewell, farewell, to thee, faded Territory,  
So perfumed in the past from east to west;  
Oh thy beauty and joy let these fools tell the story,  
Whose fancy has fashioned gold mines in thy breast.

Farewell to thee, Kansas, thou hummingbird,  
Whose song is dear, and great fortune made slow;  
Where life is not easy, as editors state;  
And only black-orn-brown and honey grow.

What men have we here, and what grows we  
Have uttered, and what has been said;  
(Molluscs and panacea were best that we  
In our hearts had been despairingly muttered.

No more tar, or pudding shall make our  
Eyes glad.

"Put far in the wild, where our claims are  
Unsettled, and where our claims are made;  
By our own axes our shanties created;  
By silvers and bruisers our fingers be paid."

Weep we the pain of the poor colored stranger,  
And weep that his fingers be paid;  
But delicate hands would wrongly endeavor  
To pick our own "babies" and then sleep on the ground.

They call on the friends of our country to rally  
And hasten to Kansas to further the right;  
But mosquitoes are thick in most every valley  
And every day they give us a bite.

No more to leave this country of pain,  
Where snakes are abundant and blankets refused;  
We soon shall arrive in the land of the dairy  
Where apples are plenty and pretty slabs used.

No more on the banks of the broad Kansas river  
Shall we tremble with fear at Missouri's track;  
No more shall our limbs with a terror-struck quiver  
While Stringfellow's bullets are aimed at our back.

No more shall they of our heart-breaking  
Goesing up from the desolate plain—  
Our trials shall cease; for happy to imbrow  
Shall we all safe on some eastern-bound train.

We go to sit down in the lap of our mothers,  
And be with fresh milk and new sugar-plum fed;  
And when the hot sun shines our strong elms  
Will hold an umbrella just over each head.

—*Am—Arag's Daughter.*

### [2d PRIZE.] The Kansas Emigrant's Lament.

Am—Arag's Daughter.

I left my own New England,  
The happy and the best,  
With a burning Kansas fever  
Bragging in my breast.

Oh that New England!  
Oh that lovely New England!  
If I live to reach you, surely  
I never more will roam.

I sought for Kansas freedom,  
And I sought a Kansas farm,  
I thought to serve my country,  
And do myself no harm.

Oh that Kansas farm!  
Oh that Kansas farm!  
The name is hateful to me,  
And can no longer charm.

Lame to Lawrence city,  
A place of great renown,  
All who despise the name,  
To find a small town.

The houses were unfinished,  
The people had no floors,  
The windows had no glass in,  
And the food was used for doers.

I sought an Astor palace,  
And a table where to eat,  
They gave me nothing but  
With some cold and salt meat.

Oh my mother's party!  
How could they say so!  
If I ever go home again,  
I then would try to stay.

I asked them for a chamber,  
And a place to lay my head,  
They said I could not have  
Within a floorless shed.

Oh my pleasant room,  
With a carpet and a floor,  
A feather bed and cushioned chair,  
I never shall see you more.

They told of great houses,  
A fair and lovely home,  
But the wind that howled in  
Nearly all the time!

Oh those clouds of dust,  
How furiously they flew,  
Blackening all our faces,  
And the food and dishes too.

I left my boon companions,  
And my sisters, ever kind,  
To dwell among the heathens,  
The roughest of mankind.

Oh! I was born a gentleman,  
I cannot bear to see  
Among a people destitute  
Of all gentility.

Alas! I'm very wretched,  
But why should I be so?  
Furn and heater have I none,  
Fast as I can go.

Oh! so far from Kansas,  
I wish I may be so,  
But those who have the Kansas farms  
Must fight for liberty.

—*M. B.*

### [3d PRIZE.] The Faithful Return from Kansas.

BY E. H. F. F. F.

I've reached New England's shore, mother,  
My own, my childhood's home,  
From my happy home, mother,  
I never more will roam.

Though Kansas land is fair, mother,  
I never more will roam,  
Though the land is fair, mother,  
I never more will roam.

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## Miscellaneous.

### Important Kansas Revolution.

The editor of the Chicago Democratic Press, says the following letter is from a southern gentleman and slaveholder who has settled in Kansas Territory. It was furnished for that paper, and is a valuable article filled with important information regarding the early political history and other movements in Kansas.

KANSAS, Aug. 18, 1855.

To the Editors of the Democratic Press:—Among the truly valuable and interesting information daily spread before your numerous readers, I have thought the following sketches of Kansas history might find a place. The present state of affairs is but the result of preconcerted schemes. Among the individuals most active in carrying out the views of Atchison & Co., the Rev. Thomas Johnson, of the Shawnee Mission, President of the Council, deserves a prominent place. Personally he is an above medium size, square built, presenting a grave, commanding presence. As a preacher he is scarcely above mediocrity—destitute of enthusiasm and vividly ideal, he is noted for great practical skill. He has presided over the Shawnee Methodist Mission for many years, and held slaves here long before it was lawful. Having ample accommodations at the Mission, it has been made the headquarters of government officials, and at present of the Legislature and attendants, yielding him a rich harvest pecuniarily, and at the same time giving him a position of influence. It is well known here that a part of the programme of the Nullifiers, previous to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, was eternal opposition to the organization and settlement of the Territory. The parson's position enabled him to prejudice the minds of Indians against making treaties, most effectually. Atchison said he "would rather see the Territory sunk in hell than become a free State." The Nullifiers commenced scheming at an early day, and procured the appointment of pro-slavery Indian Agents to carry out their views in the Territory. They were awfully shocked at the nomination of Mr. Manypenny, of Ohio, Commissioner of Indian Affairs. "I," said Senator Atchison, "and my friends went to President Pierce, and requested him to withdraw the nomination. I told him the appointment was not fit to be made—he was from a free State. The President insisted that he had no more to do than to retract, and if he would let him have his way in this, he would see that all other appointments in the Territory should meet their views, and he would take care that Mr. Manypenny was right."

The agents received instructions accordingly, and went forth on their mission. Congress made an appropriation and ordered treaties to be made. Time passed on; no treaties were made. The Indians were anxious to treat; the country expected it. But Parson Johnson and the agents were working for other interests, and the most favorable opportunity for making treaties was lost. Wyandott City Convention was held on the 28th of July, 1853, a Territorial Government organized, and Delegates nominated to Congress. The Honorable Abner Guthrie was nominated by the friends of Col. Benton, and the Rev. Thomas Johnson was the friend of Gen. Atchison. These were Missouri politics introduced into the country. Mr. Guthrie received the nomination by a handsome majority. Here a stripling, who has since been rewarded for his mental service by an appointment, went to Guthrie and requested him to resign, assuring him that Mr. Atchison "said that the election of one of opposite sentiments to him from Kansas Territory would enable them to repeal the Missouri Compromise, and that he being the friend of Col. Benton would destroy his influence in Congress." Mr. Guthrie did not take the advice.

The session of Congress was approaching. Some show must be made towards making treaties. Accordingly Mr. Manypenny came out to the Mission and counselled with the friends of the Indian agents. He got his instructions, and then passed rapidly in a carriage accompanied by Gen. Whitfield, up the main road on the west side of the Missouri river, into Nebraska, and returned without making any treaties, not even stopping in some of the Indian nations. A Delaware chief who was asked if Mr. Manypenny offered to treat or said anything to him, answered, "No; nothing. He got gloves on; he boy; he got no beard."

Manypenny went on to Washington. The Plate Argus, Atchison's organ, threatened settlers who might attempt to go on to United States land in the Territory with the "bayonets of the infantry." This theatrical programme was faithfully carried out so far.

One agent away up in Nebraska, Mr. Galewood, who was a Benton man, went ahead to carry out the act of Congress faithfully, and made treaties with the Indians, and was dismissed for his presumption. Late in the fall of 1853, the Missourians and others held a convention and brought out Rev. Thomas Johnson for Congress, in opposition to Mr. Guthrie, the nominee of the Wyandott Convention. Mr. Johnson was elected by Indian votes, he having succeeded in prejudicing their minds against Mr. Guthrie, as the friend of settlement and organization. The Rev. gentleman went on to Washington, but of course was not received as a Delegate, as the Territory was not organized; and while Senator Douglas was thundering against the "three thousand New England preachers," who had presumed to take an interest in the affairs of their country, the Washington Union was complaining "the Rev. Thomas Johnson as a noble specimen of a Western man."

Treaties were now made with the Shawnees, and the Parson took care to "feather his nest." He justly deserves credit for skill in financing, having, it is said, cleared \$100,000 a year out of the Mission farm. He now obtains a special grant by treaty of the whole available and a large body of lands, probably worth \$100,000, on the mere nominal condition of continuing the very profitable Manual Labor School ten years longer. New England! New England! how art thou fallen! The ministers of thy holy temples, the graduates of thy venerated halls of learning refused a hearing, and their petition hurried back with scorn by the Congress of this great Republic, while an obscure Western preacher is honored and sent home laden with riches!

## The National Issue.

The great question before the nation now is, shall freedom or slavery predominate? At the origin of our Government, Southern as well as Northern statesmen regarded slavery as sectional. This indeed was the prevailing sentiment. No intimation was given from any quarter that its character was national. It was treated wholly as a local institution. As a political evil it was to be tolerated within certain limits, but to be removed as soon as in the nature of the case it was possible; while as a moral evil no limits could of course be assigned to moral influence against it; for human authority may not thus interfere, since this is a field for the free exercise of conscience, for the wise and diligent culture of which responsibility is due only to God. The universal feeling and the uniform testimony were that slavery was an evil in itself; its existence being everywhere deprecated, and the determined expression being general that all appropriate measures should be adopted for its speedy and final extinction. The language of Washington, Jefferson, Madison and the great body of worthy patriots was distinct and unqualified in condemnation of the institution not only as a present evil to the bondman and the oppressor, but as fraught with fearful peril to the future liberties of the country.

These are historical facts, of the highest importance and the utmost significance. Slavery was regarded as an evil; and slavery was deemed to be sectional. As an evil it was of course to be removed, and as sectional it was consequently not to be extended. Nor, at the adoption of the Constitution, was it even recognized in terms, lest the mere recognition, in the light of our professions as a free and independent people, should involve an inconsistency and absurdity, which would expose us to the derision of the civilized world.

But how is slavery now regarded? Is it not regarded as a National institution, not only by the entire South, but also to some extent at the North? The evident determination of the South is, to preserve what she is pleased to call the Equilibrium of the States. Hence she claims for every free State admitted into the Union another slave State. And in order most effectually to accomplish this result, she appeals at once to Northern ambition, which under the garb of conservatism renders prompt and decisive aid. The administration of Texas, the passage of the Fugitive Act, the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, are mournful instances of the political prostitution of Northern representation.

But the case of Kansas furnishes the most open and daring evidence of the purpose of slaveholders to extend the area of slavery and nationalize it as an institution. Here the plain, unfolded determination avowed, to secure that Territory at any and every cost; and this base design is distinctly encouraged if not decidedly aided by the National Administration.

The issue, then, and the only material issue before the country is freedom or slavery. This is the battle ground. Here is the contest. In this warfare, quickly girding on his armor and readily entering the field, will every true friend of freedom cheerfully engage. And if the contest were strictly between the North and the South, the result would not be doubtful. But unhappily it is otherwise. By force of circumstances, a party claiming to be Democratic, but without the shadow of a reason for the appropriation, has allied itself to Southern interests under the miserably hollow pretence of special regard for the Union, while it is apparent to the most casual observation that the partisan and personal aggrandizement constitute the ruling motif of leading spirits.

Of the blessings of freedom and the curse of slavery in all the varied relations of human life, it were superfluous to speak. On this subject Northern theory, may charitably be hoped, is now comparatively sound. But on the question of open resistance to the aggressions of slavery into territory consecrated to freedom, there is unhappily a division of sentiment at the North, of which the South is ready to avail herself, and by means of which she has been enabled hitherto to conquer.

To meet this growing difficulty, and to turn back the current of perverted Northern sentiment, demands not spasmodic and periodical, but constant and unremitting effort. Nor should it be confined to the larger places, nor to large assemblies. Every village and plantation and hamlet should be visited, and into every ear the living voice of truth should be poured, and before every eye should be presented the inspired page of Freedom's claims to the highest services and the largest sacrifices of her devoted sons.

Nor should we be misled by the senseless clamor that the Union is hereby endangered. It is republican measures alone, which, under God, will save the Union, if her doom be not irrevocably fixed. It is republicanism, not slaveholding Democracy, nor Northern dough-facism, which is the true conservator of the Union. It is republicanism more than others, who consulting the welfare of the Union by a careful study of the constitution, insist upon a rigid application of its principles to the administration of the general Government. The false charge of the slaveholding oligarchy and their Northern Democratic confederates, of want of faith to the Union, should be met by renewed endeavors on our part to secure the observance of its just claims upon every portion of our wide domain.

We love the Union, but we love it intelligently. We love it only as it confers upon ourselves and security to our posterity the blessing of liberty. But if, through the mad schemes of ambitious demagogues, we be wrested from its original purpose, then we love it not, because it is no longer the Union, but the discordant elements of slaveholding despotism and democratic treason.

We are not left, however, to this dire alternative. The patriotism of the country is at last aroused. This is sufficiently indicated by elections in the free States since the passage of the Nebraska Kansas bill. The real friends of the Union are coming to the rescue, and by the blessing of heaven, their labors will be crowned with success, and the perpetuity of the Union secured.—Portland Inq.

### Laugh and Grow Fat.

It is not contrary to good breeding to laugh in company, and even to laugh heartily, when there is anything amusing going on; this is nothing more than being sociable. To remain grim and precise on such occasions is sheer affectation.

Avoid, however, what is called the horse laugh.

## New York Association.

The General Association of New York (Congregational) met at Spencerport, Aug. 22; L. A. Sawyer, Moderator. An elaborate report on the relations of benevolent societies to slavery was read by Mr. Thompson of the Independent, and followed by remarks by his associate, Dr. Bacon, of New Haven, who said, among other things, that "sheer cowardice," nothing else, keeps them (the Tract Society) from publishing on slavery.

The subject of slavery was further discussed by the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Whereas, the encroachments of slavery for the last thirty years have been such as greatly to embolden the enemies of freedom, and prepare them for any nefarious plot, and any violent measures for its execution:

And, whereas, the recent unlawful proceedings in Kansas on the part of Missouri slave-propagandists, are an outrage upon our republican principles never before known or possible in this country;

And, whereas, it is alleged that other plots are now forming, for making more slave States by purchases from the Choctaw and other Indian tribes, and by a contemplated cession of the Plate country from the State of Missouri to the Territory of Kansas;

And, whereas, Ministers of the Gospel in Missouri, who have refused to enter into any complicity with the system of slavery, but have silently borne their testimony against that system as a hindrance to the Gospel, have been brought into peril of their persons and their lives, and been ignominiously driven from the State, and ministers in other States of the South have for the same cause, been threatened with the violence of a mob;

And, whereas, such measures strike a blow at that freedom of religion, and that security of the individual citizen, which are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States to all its citizens, in all the States and Territories of the Union, and also contravene the fundamental rights and duties of the disciples of Christ everywhere; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Association of the State of New York deeply deplore this state of things as tending to subvert our free government, and to erect in its stead a despotism of the most fearful kind—that of a Slave Oligarchy.

Resolved, That we call upon the clergy, in the spirit of their ministerial fathers of the revolution, to preach upon this subject, with a view both to enlighten their people and to awaken a proper interest and concern for our common country.

Resolved, That all the lovers of freedom, and of the institutions springing therefrom, be hereby urged in the present crisis, to be wakeful to their brightening duty, and to be prepared and prompt to resist the measures now about to be perfected, for the final subjection to eternal slavery of an immense Territory, once forever consecrated to freedom.

### What the North Can Do.

The N. Y. Tribune thus answers the Buffalo Republic's interrogatory, what can the North do to restore Kansas to its true condition:—

1. Dismiss from power and banish from their confidence all who aided to break the Missouri Compact, and thus open the door for the frauds and outrages by which the Free Settlers of Kansas have been so grossly wronged.

2. Brand with especial reprobation those who counseled him who decreed the removal of Gov. Reeder for trying to protect the actual settlers of Kansas from the most flagrant of those outrages.

3. Stiffen the backbone of their Representatives in the new Congress about to assemble, so that they will indignantly repudiate and brand aside the usurping despotism imposed on the settlers of Kansas by the Missouri mob, who, by preconcerted and secret conspiracy, seized and vitiated the polls last spring, and who have thereupon pretended to legalize slavery in Kansas, to make the expression of free opinions a felony, to fill all the offices of the Territory for six years, and to enact election laws which disfranchise the free settlers and confer the right of suffrage on Missouri invaders.

4. Instruct the House of Representatives to admit promptly the Delegate from Kansas whom the free settlers will elect in the second week of October instead of the pretender whom the Missourians will elect in the week preceding.

5. Instruct their Representatives to insert and retain in the Appropriation bill which shall undertake to provide for the support of a Territorial Government in Kansas a clause to this effect: "Provided, That no person in said Territory shall be deprived of life, liberty or property except by due process of law; and that any act or portion of an act of any Legislature of said Territory purporting to establish slavery therein is hereby declared to be void."

6. Make it perfectly clear to all parties that this act of recency to freedom and servility to slave power is the repeal of the Missouri Restriction and the removal of Gov. Reeder won't pay—that whoever abets or attempts to uphold them must make up his mind to gain a decided loss by them.

Such are a part of the remedies which we deem appropriate for the wrongs inflicted on the free States in the recent acts of the Federal Government and of the Missouri borderers with regard to Kansas.

### Model Legislation.

The following preamble and resolution went through all the forms of Legislation at the recent session of the Bogus Legislature, and is as binding upon the people as any enactment emanating from that body.

"Whereas, the signs of the times indicate that a measure is now on foot, fraught with more danger to the interest of the pro-slavery party and the Union, than any which has yet been agitated, to wit: The proposition to organize a National Democratic party; and, whereas, some of our friends have been misled by it; and, whereas, the result will be to divide the pro-slavery party and Democrats, and weaken the power of the Union, and, whereas, we believe that on the success of our party depends the perpetuity of the Union; therefore,

Resolved, That the Council representing, in that is the duty of the pro-slavery party, the Union loving men of Kansas Territory, to know but one issue, slavery—and that any party making, or attempting to make, any other, is, or should be held as an ally of abolitionism and disunion."

## Original Correspondence.

### Correction of Falsehoods.

The following article in reply to a letter in the Leavenworth Herald, was designed for publication long ago, and is only given now that the future historian of Kansas may have it in his power to correct another of the many false assertions, on the part of our border neighbors, against eastern settlers, and the Manhattan Association in particular.

MANHATTEN, K. T., July 16, '55.

Messrs. Weekly Herald—GENTLEMEN:—In Vol. 1, No. 42, (June 29th,) of your Leavenworth Herald, I find you have a communication taken from the Kansas City Enterprise of the 16th ult., signed by W. J. Osborn. After naming the person referred to, I had concluded to let it pass without noticing any of the falsehoods and misstatements contained therein; but as this man Osborn has made charges affecting not only my political and moral character, but also insinuations and direct charges against the moral standing of the citizens of Manhattan, I have been urged to respond to this communication, and in doing so I will not condescend to use opprobrious epithets to Mr. Osborn, contenting myself by merely saying that I and those whom he has stated to be "abolitionists and paupers" the veriest slaves of designing men; a crowd of villains and cut-throats; the foul sum of prisons and brothels," &c., have not the notoriety of this man Osborn, we are proud to say we have a moral character which will compare with his and not suffer by such comparison.

I will attempt, in as brief a manner as possible, to give you, and through you, the public, as truthful a statement as can be done on a sheet of paper. I belong to a company of ten from Cincinnati. We are all American born citizens, and united together to form a settlement in Kansas, which we have an undoubted right to do. We first contemplated settling about Fort Riley, but the low stage of water prevented us from ascending the Kansas further than the mouth of the Big Blue. Here we found that the Boston Company had located a town, and made some claims. Propositions were made which were accepted by us, by which we became possessed of the undivided half of the location. As a company we are in no manner connected with any Aid Society. I do not know the political sentiments of all my associates; but I do know, however, we are not abolitionists, nor are we "paupers." True, we are not rich, yet we are sober and industrious, and hope we have energy and perseverance enough to eventually build up a thriving town and an important business place.

We are not slaves of any man or set of men, neither are we "villains," "cut-throats," or "the foul sum of prisons and brothels."

I will now take this occasion to remark that the language referred to purporting to have been uttered in our presence by Mr. Osborn, is false, utterly false. Mr. Osborn, or any other man, dare not use such language to us, and pass with impunity. I say he never used such language. It may suit his taste to publish such for the purpose of showing his pretended valor, but is one thing to say and another to do.

The facts connected with the land for which this man Osborn made his pretended claim is this: Originally, a man by the name of J. W. Russell, made the first claim, and after erecting the frame of a house and excavating a cellar, sold his claim to the Boston Company, who put it into the possession of a man by the name of O. H. Rogers, this man gave up his claim on the 4th of June, and our Cincinnati Company took possession of it, and had some furniture in the house, and property laying within five hundred yards of the same, of the value of five thousand dollars. This property is included in our portion of the town of Manhattan. On the 5th of June this man Osborn made his appearance, pitched out our tent, and some furniture, and commenced nailing up clap-borders. I, with Mr. Thurston, went as soon as we discovered an intruder and civilly questioned by what right he had taken possession of our property? He stated it was his claim, and that he was determined to hold it all his life. I said, "You must hold it all his life, and we must leave it to you, and should not hold it; that we were the bona fide owners, and that he must leave. After some time I again called and asked him if he was going peacefully away, or if he was still of the same mind in persisting to hold on. He replied he would not leave, and was fully determined to remain, and would not leave the ground alive. I then told him there was no use of multiplying words; leave he must, if not peacefully, other means must be taken. I then left, and collected perhaps twenty men. Some of them were armed, and it was agreed that no ill language should be used, and no one speak but myself. We then went to the house. I again asked Mr. Osborn if he would peacefully leave. He replied he would not. I then took him ten minutes to leave, and if he did not leave, we would suffer the consequences. He insisted on knowing the penalty. I told him, after some time that paddling a la posterior and a ducking in the Kansas. He said he was ready for the penalty. Shortly I told him if his claim was a valid one, if he had the shadow of a legal right, we were ready to protect him. But we were not to be trifled with, and if he consulted his own interest and personal safety, he had better leave. At length, and perhaps in less than fifteen minutes, his discretion prevailed, and he left. His charge of drunken deck